

JAMES' HAT-TRICK

Sports Mail Special Report.

A FIRST-HALF hat-trick by Peter James, paved the way for a 3-1 victory for Wycombe Wanderers against Wokingham in the Berks and Bucks Senior Cup semi-final, at Marlow this afternoon.

Wycombe: Brown; Beck, Lewis; Thomas, Fisher, Ashby; Worley, Blair, James, Howson. Horseman.

Wokingham: Merryweather; McMinn, Gorst; Mortimer, Roystone, Scott; Beavers, Hearmon, Glanville, Lambert, Sandland.

Referee: Mr. M. Kelly (Slough).

Early exchanges were even with Worley prominent for Wycombe. Wokingham retaliated strongly, but found the Wycombe defence very confident.

Eight minutes after the start, Wokingham's right back McMinn was taken off with a cut under the eye after making a plucky tackle. He was taken to hospital for stitches.

Soon afterwards, Merryweather saved Wokingham with a plucky clearance from a header by Blair.

Wokingham showed plenty of spirit. When Sandland broke through, Lambert missed a good chance by hesitating in front of goal.

Merryweather saved well again when the Wycombe right back, Beck, went up into the attack and got in a shot at short range.

JAMES gave Wycombe the lead after 24 minutes with a neat header from a pass by Worley.

When Wokingham hit back Brown made a good save from Lambert, but, Wycombe con-

tinued to dictate the play, and in the 35th minute JAMES added a second goal from a pass from Blair.

Half-time: Wycombe Wanderers 3, Wokingham 0.

McMinn resumed at right back for Wokingham with a bandaged eye in the second half, but although Wokingham had more of the play, they rarely looked like piercing a strong Wycombe defence.

Shots by Beavers and Sandland were blocked by a close-packed defence. At the other end, a shot by Howson was stopped on the goal-line by Glanville, who had moved from centre forward to left back in a Wokingham reshuffle.

When Wokingham broke through GLANVILLE, who had gone back to centre-forward, took a pass from Lambert to score in the 80th minute, beating Brown at the second attempt.

A brilliant run by Worley gave James a chance for Wycombe a little later, but his shot went just wide of the upright. Then Merryweather ran out to dispossess the Wycombe centre forward when he broke through on his own.

RESULT:

WYCOMBE WAN. 3
WOKINGHAM TOWN 1

JAMES GOALS PUT WYCOMBE IN FINAL

Wycombe W 3 Wokingham T 1

A HAT-TRICK by centre-forward Peter James while the opposition at Marlow was reduced to 10 men put Wycombe Wanderers into the final of the Berks and Bucks Senior Cup.

But, apart from James's three goals in 15 minutes in the first half, Wycombe's victory over their Corinthian League rivals, Wokingham Town, was undistinguished. Only skipper Len Worley gave James consistent support, and there was a lack of effective collaboration by halves and forwards.

Within eight minutes Wokingham lost right-back Ian McMinn, who was taken to hospital to have four stitches for a cut eye, and Wycombe dominated the first-half exchanges. James put them ahead after 24 minutes and added two more goals before the interval.

Wycombe's superiority was much less marked in the second half, when McMinn, bandaged but full of fight, resumed at right back for Wokingham. Centre-half Roystone kept a much closer watch on danger man James, and some of the most promising Wycombe attacks came from right-back Beck, forging upfield on his own.

Wingers Sandland and Beavers put the Wokingham attack more in the picture. Clever play by Lambert enabled Glanville to score half an hour after the resumption, but they were unable to beat the Wycombe defence again.